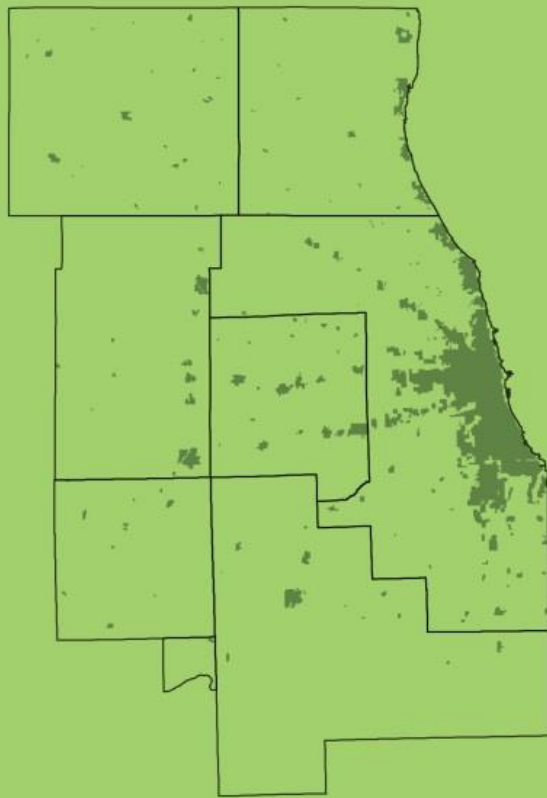


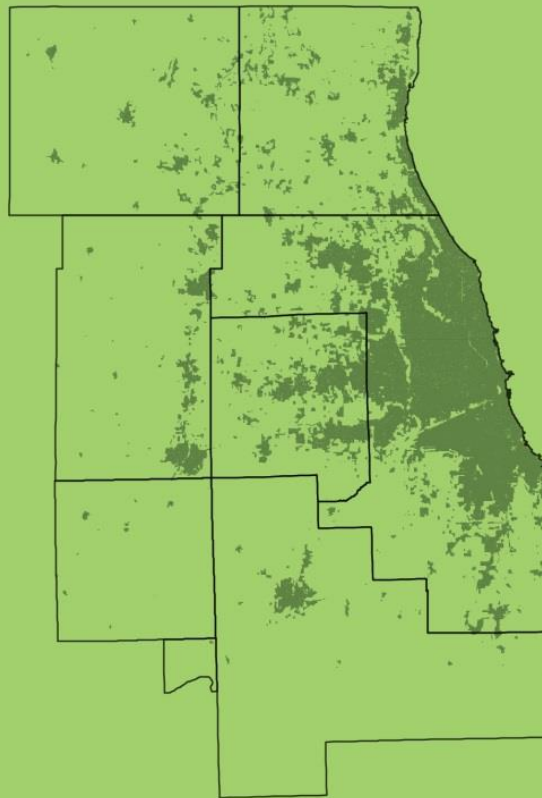
ON TO 2050

Alternative Futures for our Region

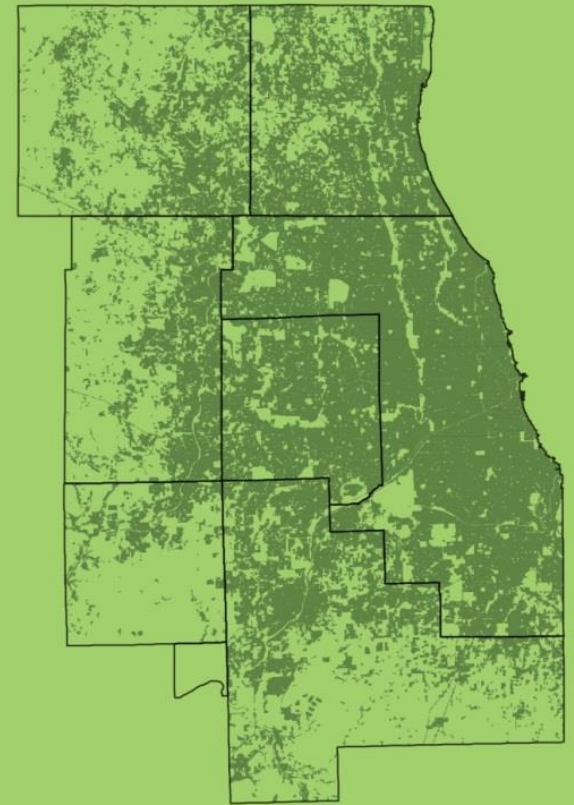
Chicago is the third largest U.S. metropolitan region.



1900



1950



2005

We ask our communities how they envision their futures.



ON TO 2050



The five alternative futures

- **Changed Climate**
- **Walkable Communities**
- **Innovative Transportation**
- **Constrained Resources**
- **Transformed Economy**

How to use the keypads

- **Votes are anonymous.**
- **Your last vote is the vote that counts.**
- **Return the keypad, please.**



Think regionally about our future.

A dramatic, high-contrast image of dark, swirling storm clouds. The clouds are deep blue and black, with some lighter, white highlights where light breaks through, creating a sense of movement and intensity. The overall mood is ominous and powerful.

CHANGED CLIMATE

As climate change intensifies, which impact worries you most in our region?

- A. Harm to life and property from storms, flooding
- B. Insufficient water supply
- C. Threats to regional agriculture, biodiversity
- D. Effect of extreme heat on health
- E. More intense impacts for vulnerable residents
- F. I'm not worried
- G. Other

What is the biggest barrier to action on extreme weather?

- A. Doubt that climate change is real
- B. The issue is too complex and abstract
- C. Lack of urgency due to competing priorities
- D. Limited understanding
- E. People don't know what they can do about it
- F. Other

Which 2 of our regional systems are the most important to protect from extreme weather?

- A. Roads, bridges, and public transit
- B. Energy supply and distribution network
- C. Hospitals and emergency services
- D. Natural resources and open spaces
- E. Infrastructure for water supply and stormwater
- F. Our sources of water
- G. Food supply
- H. Other



WALKABLE COMMUNITIES

What are the 3 biggest benefits of more walkable communities?

- A. Healthier residents
- B. The ability to live car-free
- C. More social interaction
- D. Lower emissions mean less pollution
- E. Transportation costs less
- F. More economic development in those places
- G. Other

What type of housing does your community need most?

- A. For residents at all income levels
- B. For middle-income households
- C. For lower-income households
- D. For families
- E. For young professionals
- F. For a specific group
- G. We don't need more housing types
- H. Other

What's your top concern about denser, more walkable neighborhoods?

- A. I'm not concerned
- B. Changes to neighborhood character
- C. More traffic and parking hassles
- D. More stress on schools
- E. Increased costs to residents
- F. Other

What gets in our way of living healthier lives?

- A. Inequity in public transit
- B. Housing conditions
- C. Lack of parks and recreational amenities
- D. Cost of healthy food
- E. Community safety
- F. Cultural barriers
- G. Other

What top two actions could enable people to live healthier lives?

- A. Access to health care
- B. Access to healthy food
- C. Improve community safety
- D. Improve housing conditions
- E. More equitable public transit service
- F. Promote health education
- G. Other

A long-exposure photograph of a busy highway at night. The image shows multiple lanes of traffic with light trails from cars and trucks. A bright sunburst effect is visible in the distance, illuminating the scene. The text "INNOVATIVE TRANSPORTATION" is overlaid in the center.

INNOVATIVE TRANSPORTATION

How comfortable are you with autonomous vehicles?

- A. Very – can't happen soon enough
- B. Somewhat – they need more testing
- C. Not at all
- D. Will always prefer to drive my own car
- E. Other

If fewer people own cars, we will need to invest in public transit.

Which should be our top 2 priorities?

- A. New bus/rail routes and extended rail lines
- B. Service later at night
- C. Shorter wait times
- D. More reliable service
- E. Faster travel (such as bus express lanes)
- F. Easier transfers and connections
- G. More comfortable vehicles and stations
- H. Other

If you had a convenient commute no matter where you lived, where would you choose to live?

- A. An urban neighborhood
- B. A walkable suburban community
- C. A suburban subdivision
- D. A small town
- E. A rural area
- F. Other

A photograph of a large, rusted metal bridge structure, likely a truss bridge, with the text "CONSTRAINED RESOURCES" overlaid in the center. The bridge is made of heavy steel beams and girders, showing significant rust and wear. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights on the upper parts of the bridge and deep shadows in the lower sections. The text is in a bold, white, sans-serif font, centered horizontally and vertically.

CONSTRAINED RESOURCES

How do you think your community will respond in a future with less federal and state funding?

- A. Cuts in local public spending and services
- B. Higher local taxes and fees
- C. More coordination with other towns
- D. Greater reliance on private sector partnerships
- E. Fight harder for scarce federal and state dollars
- F. Other

What are your top 2 priorities for public funding? (Assume education, public health, and public safety are already priorities.)

- A. Transportation
- B. Sewer and water systems
- C. Flood control
- D. Parks and open space
- E. Housing
- F. Social service programs
- G. Other

How should we fund the necessary improvements in our region's transportation system (select 2)?

- A. Charge drivers (higher gas tax, tolls, fees)
- B. Charge more for parking
- C. Increase sales or property tax
- D. Raise public transit fares
- E. Charge more to bypass congestion
- F. Tax properties that benefit from improvements
- G. Other

A cluster of glossy spheres in blue, orange, and dark blue, with the text "TRANSFORMED ECONOMY" overlaid.

TRANSFORMED ECONOMY

How will technology change jobs in the future?

- A. More flexibility about when and where people work
- B. Increased productivity
- C. Frequent demands for workers to have new skills
- D. Increased competition for jobs
- E. New opportunities to grow businesses
- F. Other

Some workers could fall behind as technology transforms the economy. Which strategies could help?

- A. Double-down on education
- B. Connect job training to emerging industries
- C. Strengthen economically disconnected communities
- D. Create new job opportunities
- E. Other

What does our region need most to enable everyone to succeed in the future economy?

- A. Reliable public transit
- B. High quality, affordable education
- C. Continuing job training
- D. More options to work close to home
- E. Grow our existing industries
- F. Easier access to the internet
- G. Other

Stay in touch, stay tuned, let us hear from you.

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Imagine our Future

Changed Climate

Walkable Communities

Innovative Transportation

Constrained Resources

Transformed Economy

Where do we want to be in 2050?